

VZCZCXRO2150
PP RUEHFK RUEHKS0 RUEHNAG RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #0884 1070508
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 170508Z APR 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2380
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAA/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 3567
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 5906
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 1258
RUEHKS0/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 4103
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 7368
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8847
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2811
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 4870
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4690
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 000884

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - SPECIAL ENVOY MITCHELL'S TRIP TO
ISRAEL AND IRAN

11. LEAD STORIES: Lead stories on Friday morning included a Nikkei interview with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang, during which he reportedly expressed Beijing's intent to persuade North Korea to return to the Six-Party Talks.

12. "Obama Diplomacy Blocked by Israeli Right Wing" On U.S. Special Envoy for Middle East Peace Mitchell's visit to Jerusalem on Wednesday, the liberal Asahi wrote (4/17): "As evidenced by the assumption of the foreign ministerial portfolio by a hardliner toward Palestine, the new Israeli administration is negative about a U.S. policy of achieving Middle East peace through the 'coexistence of two parties' to establish a Palestinian state. The Obama administration's approach of calling for dialogue appears to have already hit a major obstacle (created by the Israeli right wing).... If the U.S. could successfully alter the current power dynamics (in the region) of Iran spearheading a hostile approach toward Israel, a realistic path toward progress in the Middle East peace would emerge."

13. "U.S.'s Softer Line Offers Iran Opportunity to Stop Being International Pariah" Concerning Iranian Foreign Minister Mottaki's remarks to the daily that his country would respond accordingly if the Obama administration changes its policy toward Iran, the top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri reported from Tehran (4/17): "FM Mottaki made the statement in the judgment that Washington's mounting moves to take a softer line toward Iran are presenting Tehran with a good opportunity to extricate itself from international isolation that has lasted for the past 30 years. Given that the Obama administration has expressed its readiness to hold direct dialogue with Iran, the focus of attention is likely to be shifted to how Tehran will dispel (international) doubts about its military use of nuclear power and to what extent the U.S. and the Europeans would allow Iran to return to the international community through such steps as lifting economic sanctions on Tehran."

